



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
BUSINESS MEETING OF THE
SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL
INSPECTIONS**

**KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 372
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
<http://sbc.lacounty.gov>**

Wednesday, December 17, 2014

10:00 AM

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (15-0047)

Attachments: [AUDIO](#)

Present: Vice Chairperson Frank S. Bacio, Commissioner Barbara Bigby,
Commissioner Cheryl Grills Ph.D., Commissioner Donald S.
Andrews and Commissioner Susan Burton

Excused: Chairperson Eleanor R. Montañó and Commissioner Anne S. Hill

Staff Present: Bolaji Famuyiwa and Roy Sinclair. (15-0048)

Call to Order. (14-5709)

Vice Chairperson Bacio called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Vice Chairperson Bacio led in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a
moment of silence.**

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER

1. Approval of the December 10, 2014 Minutes. (14-5710)

**On motion of Commissioner Donald S. Andrews, seconded by
Commissioner Barbara Bigby and unanimously carried, this item was
approved.**

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

II. REPORTS

2. Department Representative Reports for October 15, 2014:

Department of Auditor-Controller (AC)

- Monthly Report

Department of Mental Health (DMH)

- Monthly Report

Internal Services Department (ISD)

- Monthly Report

Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)

- Monthly Report

Probation Department (PD)

- Monthly Report

Sheriff's Department

- Monthly Report (14-5711)

Department of Auditor Controller (AC)

Ms. Michele Day, AC, Group Home Ombudsman, distributed copies and reported on the Children's Group Home Ombudsman Activity Report for the month of November 2014:

25 Total calls

- 21 Youth callers
- 4 Adult callers

30 calls related to Collaboration Contacts/Referrals/Information

- 4 DCFS Social Worker
- 3 DCFS Child Protection Hotline (CPH)
- 1 San Bernardino Child Protection hotline
- 1 Community Care Licensing
- 11 Group Home Providers
- 5 Probation Ombudsman
- 4 General Information
- 1 DCFS Out of Home Care Management

9 Personal Rights

- 1 Allowance (B & I)
- 1 Clothing (Field Comprehensive Services)
- 3 Contact (David and MPennyret - 2, Penny Lane)
- 2 Food (Penny Lane)
- 2 School (Florence Crittenton, Childhelp)

6 Personal

- 1 Discipline (Florence Crittenton)
- 1 Physical Harm (Penny Lane)
- 4 Fear, Threats, Intimidation, Isolation (Penny Lane - 2, David & Margaret, Aviva)

6 Other

- 2 CSW Contact (David & Margaret - 2)
- 2 Personal Property (Children Are Our Future, Field's Comprehensive Services)
- 2 Cottage and Room Placement (Childhelp - 2)

7 Visits/Outreach

- B & I Group Home - 2 sites
- Garces Residential Care Services
- Hathaway-Sycamore Children and Family Services
- Heritage Group Homes - La Verne site
- Homes of Hope, Inc. Casa Esperanza treatment Center
- West Covina Group Home

Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)

Ms. Korliss Robinson, Out of Home Care Management Division, DCFS, reported that during the period of November 2014 there were a total of 765 Absent Without Leave (AWOL) and the child abuse hotline received a total of 24 referrals in the following categories:

- 1 Emotional abuse
- 5 General neglect
- 10 Physical abuse
- 7 Sexual abuse
- 1 Sexual abuse

During the same reporting period 13 referrals were closed in the following categories:

- 2 Emotional abuse
- 7 General neglect
- 3 Physical abuse
- 1 Sexual abuse

During a brief discussion, Commissioner Grills expressed concern regarding the closure of group homes and its impact on need for those services in certain Supervisorial Districts, especially those in the Second District. She also commented that with these closures, children are then placed in group homes in other Districts, which impacts the family re-unification process. In addition, she asked that DCFS staff provide a list of group home closures by District, and report on any problematic trends as a direct result of the closures and what plans are being implemented by DCFS to address these issues/concerns.

Probation Department (PD)

Ms. Pamela Pease, Supervising Deputy Probation Officer, Group Home Monitoring and Investigations Unit, Placement Services Bureau, PD, provided the monthly status report of group home AWOLs for the month of November 2014 as follows:

There were 111 AWOLs

- 98 Youth involved
- 42 Remain AWOL
- 29 Returned to group homes
- 13 Youth AWOLed more than once
- 24 Placed in Juvenile Hall
- 1 Camp Community Placement
- 1 Home
- 1 Terminated

During the same period, Ms. Pease also reported on the number of investigations as follows:

7 Child abuse

- 5 un-founded and 2 pending

3 Group home investigations

- 3 pending

Ms. Pease further provided the Commission with a detailed report of the status on group home monitoring, investigations and statistical findings regarding probation youth.

Department of Mental Health (DMH)

There was no representative present to report.

Internal Services Department (ISD)

There was no representative present to report.

Sheriff Department (SD)

There was no representative present to report.

- 3. Chairperson's Report on various items for December 17, 2014. (14-5712)**

Vice Chairperson Bacio shared the following Los Angeles Times article with the Commission:

Deputy is Given Prison in Jail Plot.

Staff was directed to contact Commander Ornelas of the Sheriff's Department to ascertain who will be representing the Sheriff's Department at the monthly SBC Business meeting.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

- 4. Treasurer's Report for December 17, 2014. (14-5713)**

Vice Chairperson Bacio reported that after an expenditure of \$238.50 for the Commission Holiday Luncheon, the bank statement balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund remains at \$179.65.

A discussion was held whether the Commission would have a quorum for the December 31, 2014 meeting.

After discussion, on motion by Commissioner Donald S. Andrews, seconded by Commissioner Barbara Bigby, unanimously carried, the Commission cancelled the December 31, 2014 SBC meeting.

5. Staff Report on Correspondence Received, and Department Representative Reports for December 17, 2014. (14-5714)

There was no report presented.

6. Review of Group Home Compliance Monitoring Audit Reports presented on December 17, 2014. (14-5715)

There was no report presented.

7. Commissioners' Reports on Group Home and/or Detention Facilities Inspections from December 11, 2014 to December 16, 2014. (14-5716)

During the reporting period, the following group homes/facilities were reported as being in satisfactory condition:

Vice Chairperson Bacio visited:

- **Heritage Group Home #3 (East Eckerman Avenue, West Covina, CA.) on December 11, 2014.**

Commissioner Andrews visited:

- **Children's Homes of Southern California (Victory Boulevard, West Hills, CA.) on December 15, 2014.**
- **Dorothy Kirby Center (south McDonnell Avenue, Commerce, CA.) on December 16, 2014 and noted that the following:**
 - **Facility's roof needs to be repaired; and**
 - **Medications are not double locked.**

Commissioner Bigby visited:

- **Hillside Home for Children "Boys Satellite Home" (Maiden Lane, Altadena, CA.) on December 16, 2014 and noted that there is no medical or dental records in their clients' Needs and Services Plan.**

Commissioner Burton visited:

- **Fred Jefferson Memorial Home "Compton House" (West 152nd Street, Compton, CA.) on December 16, 2014 and noted that the employees personnel files as well as the clients' Needs and Services Plans were incomplete.**

Not Home:

Commissioner Bigby visited:

- **Hillside Home for Children "Boys Satellite Home" (Maiden Lane, Altadena, CA.) on December 12, 2014.**

III. DISCUSSION

8. Discussion and approval of the Sybil Brand Commission's goals and objectives for 2015. (Continued from the meeting of December 10, 2014) (14-5609)

By consensus the Commission agreed to submit their 2015 goals and objectives ideas to staff for inclusion on the January 7, 2015 agenda.

Following discussion this item was continued to the January 2015 meeting.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

Matters Not Posted

9. Matters not on the posted agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action came to the attention of the Committee subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (14-5717)

There were no matters presented for a future agenda.

Public Comment

10. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (14-5718)

There were no members of the public present to address the Commission.

Adjournment

11. Adjournment for the meeting of December 17, 2014. (14-5719)

There being no further business, Vice Chairperson Bacio adjourned the meeting of December 17, 2014 at 12:08 P.m.